

Message Text

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NESCO

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TAGS: UNESCO, AORG, US

SUBJECT: US VOTING ELIBILITY UNDER UNESCO REGULATIONS
ON ARREARAGES

REF: (A) STATE 215012, (E) PARIS 22110

1. AUSTRALIAN EXBD MEMBER PHILIP'S ASSERTION (REFTEL A, PARA 4) THAT THERE IS PROVISION FOR WAIVER OF DENIAL OF VOTE TO MEMBER STATES IN ARREARAGES, IS TECH-
TECHNICALLY CORRECT. HOWEVER, UNDER ARTICLE IV, SECTION C, PARA 8C OF UNESCO CONSTITUTION, RULE 79, PARA 2 OF GENERAL CONFERENCE RULES OF PROCEDURE, AND ARTICLE V, PARA 5 OF FINANCIAL REGULATIONS (SEE REFTEL B)), SUCH WAIVER ONLY GRANTED IF IT SATISFACTORILY ESTABLISHED THAT "FAILURE TO PAY IS DUE TO CONDITIONS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF THE MEMBER NATION."

2. MEMBER STATE IN ARREARS SEEKING WAIVER IS REQUIRED TO MAKE FORMAL COMMUNICATION TO SECRETARIAT INVOKING TERMS OF ARTICLE IV, SECTION C, PARA 8, STATING REASONS FOR NON-PAYMENT WHICH IN TURN UNDERGO PRELIMINARY REVIEW BY EXBD THAT REPORTS WITH RECOMMENDATION TO GENERAL CONFERENCE (SEE RULE 79 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE).

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3. SUCH WAIVER HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN SOUGHT BY, AND GRANTED TO, SMALL UNESCO MEMBER STATES. WERE THE US SEEK SUCH WAIVER, IT WOULD BE FOLLOWING A COURSE TAKEN BY SUCH COUNTRIES AS EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS, MALI, PARAGUAY AND CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC AT UNESCO 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE LAST YEAR. LATTER MEMBER STATES IN ASKING FOR WAIVER, CITED ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS INCLUDING FAMINE AND NATURAL DISASTERS AS REASONS FOR INABILITY TO PAY. PERMDEL CONSIDERS THAT IT WOULD BE ILL ADVISED AND PROBABLY UNPRODUCTIVE IN ANY CASE FOR US TO ARGUE INABILITY TO PAY UNESCO CONTRIBUTIONS FOR REASONS "BEYOND THE CONTROL" OF THE USG.
RUSH

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